What is claimed is:

5

10

15

20

1. A phosphorescent compound represented by general formula [formula 1]:

$$R_2$$
 N
 M - L [formula 1]
 R_3

wherein R_1 is an alkyl group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group, a heterocyclic group, or a substituted heterocyclic group. Also, R_2 is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group, a heterocyclic group, or a substituted heterocyclic group. Also, R_3 and R_4 , each of which may be the same or different, are individually hydrogen, a halogen element, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group, a heterocyclic group, or a substituted heterocyclic group. Also, M is at least one element of group 9 in the periodic table or at least one element of group 10 in the periodic table. When the M is at least one element of group 9 in the periodic table, n=2. When the M is at least one element of group 10 in the periodic table, n=1. Also, L is a monoanionic ligand having a β -diketone structure, a monoanionic bidentate chelate ligand having a carboxyl group, or a monoanionic bidentate chelate ligand having a phenolic hydroxyl group.

- 2. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the M is an iridium element or a platinum element.
- 3. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the L is a monoanionic ligand represented by structural formula [formula 2].

4. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the L is a monoanionic ligand represented by structural formula [formula 3].

$$H_3C$$
 O
 C
 O
 C
 O
 C
 O
 C
 O
 C
 O
 C
 O
 O
 O

5. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the L is a monoanionic ligand represented by structural formula [formula 4].

6. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the L is a monoanionic ligand represented by structural formula [formula 5].

10

7. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the L is a monoanionic ligand represented by structural formula [formula 6].

8. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the L is a monoanionic ligand represented by structural formula [formula 7].

9. A phosphorescent compound according to claim 1, wherein the L is a monoanionic ligand represented by structural formula [formula 8].

5

15

[formula 8]

- 10. An electroluminescent device having the phosphorescent compound according to claim 1.
 - 11. An electroluminescent device using the phosphorescent compound according to claim 1 as a light emitter.
- 10 12. A light-emitting device having the electroluminescent device according to claim 10.
 - 13. A light-emitting device having the electroluminescent device according to claim 11.

14. An electric appliance having the light-emitting device according to claim 12 in a display portion.

15. An electric appliance having the light-emitting device according to claim20 13 in a display portion.